

THE PAIUTE INDIAN TRIBE OF UTAH

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February 25, 2021

Ellen C. Wheatley, Ph.D.
Acting Director of OCC
c/o: Karen Knoll-Moran, Region 8 Program Manager
karen.knollmoran@acf.hhs.gov

RE: GY2021 CRRSA Planned Use of Funds

Dear Acting Director Wheatley:

This letter serves as the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah's Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act planned use of funds report. Please contact the Tribe's CCDF Administrator, Tanayah Tom (ttom@fourpointshealth.org) or Family Services Program Manager (tlund@fourpointshealth.org) with any questions or concerns.

Direct Child Care Services (Subsidies)

• Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to provide direct child care services, including child care subsidy assistance to health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, farm and other food service workers, and/or other workers deemed essential or frontline during the response to coronavirus?

Yes, PITU intends to use CRRSA funds to:

- 1. Provide child care subsidy assistance to essential and frontline workers during the response to coronavirus. This will allow these workers to maintain their critical employment knowing that their children are receiving safe, quality child care. PITU respectfully requests to include our Tribal frontline and essential staff (even those who are not Tribal members/Native American and who do not have Indian children) as these workers provide an essential service to our Tribal children and other Tribal members.
- 2. Provide child care subsidy assistance for respite care for relative/kinship care providers as they are considered frontline and essential workers.

Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices

• Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to provide resources, supplies, and/or technical assistance to child care providers to support implementation of health and safety practices and policies in line with guidance from State and local health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)?

Yes, PITU intends to use CRRSA funds to:

1. Provide resources, supplies (sanitizing, hygiene, healthy snacks, easy to sanitize toys/play equipment), and technical assistance (training and support) to child care providers related implementing appropriate health and safety practices.

Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers

• Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to support the stability of the child care sector to help child care providers (program facilities and workforce) pay for increased operating expenses during the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Yes, PITU intends to use CRRSA funds to stabilize child care providers by:

- 1. Raising payment rates providing a supplemental payment to the regular CCDF subsidy.
- 2. Paying a monthly subsidy payment to secure or hold child care spots when the child is unable to attend or the child care center/provider is closed due to illness or exposure.
- 3. Waiving co-payments for all families.
- 4. Increasing eligibility to 85% GMI.
- 5. Distributing sanitization supplies and IR thermometers for families (for car, belongings, hands, etc) for preparing to go into child care center/home.
- 6. Providing mini grants to providers for increased costs like sanitizing supplies, PPE, dividers/plexiglass, individually packaged and prepared food/snacks, other supplies/toys (to rotate and ensure health and safety), etc. Mini grants would also pay for cleaning service to help with deep cleaning/sanitization or for family child care provider to hire assistants for home based care (mini grant).

<u>Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic</u>

• As required in CRRSA, how does the lead agency plan to use a portion of funds appropriated in CRRSA to provide assistance to CCDF-eligible child care providers not participating in the subsidy system prior to the COVID19 public health emergency?

PITU plans to use a portion of the CRRSA funds to:

1. Coordinate with our State child care resource and referral to find additional and available providers in our area. Then offer "mini grants" to those providers along with recruitment info. This will provide additional assistance and support to those providers as well as potentially expand our pool of available providers during and after the pandemic.

Other

• Does the lead agency plan to use a portion of CRRSA child care funds for any other activities or assistance not described above?

PITU plans to use a portion of the CRRSA funds to:

- 1. Purchase computer devices (Chromebooks) for distance learning.
- 2. Pay for internet service for parents and providers for distance learning.
- 3. Pay for advertising/marketing (i.e. video production, flyers, social media posts) to help advertise available services and additional opportunities for child care assistance as well as for recruiting providers.

Respectfully,

/s/

Tamra Borchardt-Slayton Tribal Chairperson